IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Helmling et al. Appl. No.: 10/522,582 Conf. No.: 6124

Filed: May 24, 2006

Title: GHRELIN BINDING NUCLEIC ACIDS

Art Unit: 1635

Examiner: Tracy Vivlemore Docket No.: 116676-002

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed 24 January 2007. The Examiner set a one-month period for response, making the due date for reply 24 February 2007. Attached hereto and herein incorporated by reference is a Petition for a five-month extension, making the due date for response 24 July 2007.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification are reflected in the amendments which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Amendments to the Sequence Listing are reflected in the amendment which begins on page 11 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 12 of this paper.